

NJDOT's 25th Annual Remembrance Ceremony



and 24th Anniversary of 9/11

*Thursday, September 11, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.
Employee Memorial Courtyard
NJDOT Headquarters
Ewing, NJ*

NJDOT Commemorates the 25th Anniversary of the Employee Memorial and the 24th Anniversary of 9/11



PROGRAM

Mistress of Ceremonies

Danielle Roman, Director, Division of Region North Operations

Processional

Commissioner **Francis O'Connor**, Chief of Staff **Chris Scales**, Deputy Commissioner **Joseph Bertoni**, former Commissioners **Steve Dilts**, **Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti**, **Bob Innocenzi**, **Dennis Keck**, **Kris Kolluri**, and **Jim Weinstein**. Members of the **Senior Leadership Team**, and Members of the **Eduardo Jimenez**, **Joe Kealey**, and **Terry Kresge** families. Program participants including Military Personnel and Emergency Responders led by NJSP Piper Detective **John Menafra**

Pledge of Allegiance

Sergeant **Thomas Jones (RET)**, United States Army and NJ National Guard, Division of Civil Rights and Affirmative Action

National Anthem

Vocalist **Onarai Williams**, Division of Human Resources

Invocation

Reverend **Thomas Johnson**, Pastor, AME Church, NJDOT Retiree

Welcome Remarks

Francis O'Connor, Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Transportation

Remarks by former Commissioners

Jim Weinstein, NJDOT Commissioner (January 1998 – September 2002)
Steve Dilts, NJDOT Commissioner (December 2008 to January 2010)
Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti, NJDOT Commissioner (January 2018 – September 2023)

Tribute to NJDOT's Military

Command Sergeant Major Thomas Falletta (RET), United States Army Reserve Chief of Investigations, Office of the Inspector General

Tribute to Law Enforcement, Emergency Responders and Search and Rescue Operations

Shawn Mount, Manager, Mobility South Operations
Captain (RET), Bordentown Police Department

Employee Memorial Tribute

Steve Cook, former NJDOT employee and one of the Founding Fathers of the NJDOT Employee Memorial

Tribute to NJDOT's 66 Fallen Colleagues
Reading of the names of Employees who gave their lives performing service for New Jersey

Joseph Bertoni, Deputy Commissioner
Christopher Feintheil, Assistant Commissioner, Operations

Placement of Flowers at Memorial Wall

Commissioner **Francis O'Connor**, Deputy Commissioner **Joseph Bertoni** former Commissioners **Steve Dilts**, **Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti**, **Bob Innocenzi**, **Dennis Keck**, **Kris Kolluri**, and **Jim Weinstein**, **Steve Cook**, and members of the **Eduardo Jimenez**, **Joe Kealey**, and **Terry Kresge** families.

Tribute to NJDOT Employees who have passed away since September, 2024

Kelly Hutchinson, Assistant Commissioner, Administration

God Bless America

Onarai Williams, Division of Human Resources

Rifle Salute and Playing of TAPS

Trenton Detachment 207, Marine Corps League - Bugler and Firing Detail

Closing Prayer

Reverend **Thomas Johnson**

Recessional

NJSP Piper Detective **John Menafra**

Special thanks to: Livestreaming Coordination: **Lucas Ozarowski** • **Mariah Kondash** • Photographer: **Nick Whartenby**
Memorial Display and Program: **Nick Whartenby**, **Paul Sanders**, and **Chris Yandoli** • Ceremony Coordination: **Lisa Adams**

North Region Snowplow (depiction of 9/11): **John LaFiura**, **Louis Vasquez**, **Martin Tani**, and **Jim Rogers**

Debby Hatzisavvas and the **Support Services Team** • Memorial Posters: **Nick Whartenby**, **Chris Yandoli**, and **Sign Shop**

Promotion: NJDOT's **Webmaster Team** and **Office of Communications** • **Central Region Operations** and **Office of Emergency Management, Security**, and **Cafeteria Staff** • Employee Memorial Power Point Presentation: **Paul Sanders** • Placement of Plaques on the Memorial Wall: **John Spedding** and **John Stults**, **EMC Members** • 25th Anniversary Memorial Logo, Memorial History and Pins: **Chris Yandoli**



Francis (Fran) O'Connor was confirmed as the 20th Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation on Friday, June 28, 2024. He was nominated by Governor Murphy in January 2024 and began serving as Acting Commissioner on February 12, 2024.

Fran returned to New Jersey State service with over 40 years of public and private sector transportation experience. He began his public service career at the New Jersey Turnpike Authority as a toll collector and rose to be the Deputy Director of the NJTA's Electronic Toll Collection Program. In that role he launched the Authority's first electronic toll collection installation.

While in the private sector, Fran advised transportation agencies across the country on the development and execution of critical projects with a strategic focus on toll roads. In this work, Fran has overseen hundreds of employees at a time, implemented large-scale customer service centers, and engaged with regulatory entities at all levels of government.

He graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor's in accounting from St. Peter's University.

In Remembrance of our fallen Colleagues who lost their lives performing work for NJDOT

Mohammad Afzal (November 20, 1979)	Bernard F. Feeney (March 14, 1938)	Edward T. McGuire (March 2, 1934)
Rodger M. Anderson (September 25, 1985)	Anthony Frinzi (June 26, 1973)	Otis F. Megill (June 13, 1962)
Francisco Baez (August 10, 1993)	Philip D. Gummere (June 19, 1940)	Herman J. Meury (July 24, 1946)
J. Harry Balaam (April 4, 1934)	David Handler (May 29, 1932)	George P. Moebus (January 19, 1972)
William M. Barnett (October 18, 1950)	Charles L. Herbert (August 12, 1957)	Christian Mortensen (October 23, 1964)
Harry N. Becker (May 24, 1922)	William E. Higginson (April 16, 1959)	Loren T. Nichols (June 25, 1968)
Michael H. Boss (June 10, 1948)	Ramon J. Hildebrant (April 17, 1951)	Jeremiah O'Brien (April 26, 1948)
Salvatore Brancato (July 8, 1960)	Nicholas Holovacs (April 1, 1965)	Joseph Panetta (May 13, 1959)
Byron Broadwater (June 27, 1933)	Gaza Horvath (April 11, 1972)	Joseph G. Platt (March 1, 1949)
George P. Busche (October 1, 1939)	Eduardo M. Jimenez (June 19, 2007)	Arthur Reinhardt (October 20, 1943)
John J. Calarco (February 2, 1979)	Robert M. Karuzis (January 21, 1987)	D. Douglas Roberts (September 19, 1975)
Oliver G. Carson (July 30, 1962)	William T. A. Kays (August 16, 1948)	Alphonse T. Santitoro (May 18, 1973)
Louis Caruso (June 18, 1999)	Joe Kealey (January 11, 2010)	Joseph Scolaro (April 18, 1931)
Michael G. Collins (December 9, 1982)	John Komorowski (September 10, 1987)	Donald R. Skillman (August 23, 1966)
Irvin A. Corey (September 30, 1936)	Terry J. Kresge (January 1, 1988)	Frederick V. Speth (July 6, 1963)
Hugh J. Cromie (April 16, 1951)	Kyle Kristiansen (October 29, 1990)	Moses S. Thompson (October 9, 1956)
Francis J. DeGraw (March 20, 1958)	Douglas W. LaForge (December 13, 1967)	Arthur A. Tildesley (February 27, 1942)
Faust DeLorenzo, Jr. (June 24, 1964)	John W. Lauer (April 23, 1980)	Michael Valenti (January 8, 1940)
Charles C. Dougherty (June 10, 1966)	Santo F. Lauro, Jr. (July 31, 1958)	Charles H. Whitley (April 30, 1965)
Walter C. Eckert (January 1, 1947)	Calvin A. Leach (January 21, 1993)	Joseph B. Wille, Sr. (April 27, 1938)
Lee W. Emmons (October 18, 1966)	Luther C. Leonard (June 19 1940)	John B. Youngmenn (May 16, 1962)
Brian T. Eversen (November 30, 1982)	Donald F. MacNeil, Jr. (December 14, 1961)	Louis Zanni (June 21, 1937)

Thank you for joining us to reflect and remember... We will never forget...

Military Personnel, Law Enforcement and Emergency Responders from NJDOT and NJSP participating in today's Remembrance Ceremony

Military Personnel

LTC Joseph Sweger (RET)
United States Army Reserve
DOT Retiree

Lieutenant Danielle Wylie (Roman) (RET)
United States Navy and Naval Reserve
Region North Operations

First Lieutenant Robert M. Burd (RET)
New Jersey Army National Guard
Transportation Mobility

Command Sgt. Major Thomas Falletta (RET)
United States Army Reserve
Lieutenant, New Jersey State Police (Ret)
Office of the Inspector General

Technical Sergeant Isaac Robles
United States Air Force and Air Force Reserve,
Division of Highway and Traffic Design

Sergeant First Class John Bystrycki (RET)
United States Army
Region South Operations

Sergeant First Class Michael Cheeseborough
United States Army
NJDOT/NJSP Security

Sergeant First Class Christopher Tomlin
United States Army National Guard
Transportation Mobility

Staff Sergeant Mario Bellusci
United States Army National Guard
Region South Operations

Staff Sergeant Dan Daisey
New Jersey National Guard
Transportation Mobility

Staff Sergeant Robert McNeil (RET)
United States Army Reserve
Division of Procurement

Staff Sergeant Angelo Sucameli
New Jersey Army National Guard
United States Marine Corps
Region Central Operations

Staff Sergeant Gary Thibodeau
United States Marine Corps
Division of Support Services

Sergeant Douglas Hoyt
United States Army and NJ National Guard
NJDOT/NJSP Security

Sergeant Thomas Jones (RET)
United States Army and NJ National Guard Division. of
Civil Rights and Affirmative Action

Sergeant Amy Marino
United States Army
Region Central Operations

Sergeant Dave Morgan
United States Marine Corps
Region Central Operations

Sergeant Anthony Murro
NJ National Guard
Support Services

Sergeant Ty Woodward
United States Army
Division of Information Technology

Petty Officer, 2nd Class Keith Hamilton
United States Navy
Division of Traffic Engineering

Specialist Nathan Campbell
United States Army
Region Central Operations

Specialist Levi Doggett
United States Army
NJDOT/NJSP Security

Scott Livingston, E-4
United States Army
Region Central Operations

Specialist Andres Mejia
United States Army
Division of Highway and Traffic Design

Specialist Patrick Miller
United States Army
Region Central Operations

Corporal Percell Downes
United States Marine Corps
Region South Operations

Petty Officer 3rd Class Nashid Fluker
United States Navy
Region North Operations

Petty Officer, 3rd Class, Michael Lapadula
United States Navy
Region Central Operations

Petty Officer 3rd Class Dwayne Livezey
United States Navy
Region Central Operations

Petty Officer Paul Sprewell
United States Navy
Division of Civil Rights and Affirmative Action

Private First Class Pasquale (Pat) Gervasio
United States Marine Corps
Division of Support Services

Airman First Class Brian Summers
United States Air Force
NJDOT's Operations Training Unit

Airman Mate Brandon Rice
United States Navy
Division of Civil Rights and Affirmative Action

Gamaliel Rivera
United States Navy
Region South Operations

John Rossi
United States Army
Division of Support Services

NJDOT/NJSP Personnel serving as Emergency Responders for the Department and/or for their respective Communities

Detective John Menafrá
NJSP Piper, Pipes and Drums of the Blue and Gold

Captain Pete Horensky (RET)
NJ State Police
Commissioner's Office

NJSP's Traffic Incident Management Unit
Lieutenant Scott Leuck **SFC Guy Henrickson**
SFC Sam Cappuccio **SFC Rodney Logan**
SFC Bill Kersetter **SFC Steven Szafran**
SFC Anthony DiRubba
SFC Peter Andrinopoulos

NJDOT's Safety Service Patrol and Incident Management Response Team

**From NJDOT's Transportation Mobility:
Office of Emergency Mgt., Security and Response**

Robert Burd	Elizabeth Falcon
Michael Macari	Robert McGeehan
Robert Pomykala	James Racanelli
Eugene Eng	Todd Evans
Muhammad J. Khan	

Frank Neary, Division Director, Safety Programs & Trans. Data
Shrewsbury Police Department (RET)

Shawn Mount, Manager, Mobility South Operations
Captain, Bordentown Police Department (RET)

North Region Operations

Omar Diaz, Assistant Division Director

Captain Lou Crammer
DeCou Fire Company
Division of Support Services

Michael Goodman
Firefighter, Norwood Fire Company
Region North Operations

Past Chief Thomas Jones
Joint Board of Fire Commissioners, Arbor Hose
Fire Company No.1, Piscataway
Div of Civil Rights and Affirmative Action

Central Region Operations

Past Chief Mike Yaple
Califon Fire Company

Past Captain and President Timothy Hartigan
(Life Member), Morgan First Aid Squad

Assistant Chief Brandon Hanics
Alpha Volunteer Fire Company

Lieutenant Raymond Berger
Franklin Township Fire Company
(Warren County)

Fire Police John Frankenfield
Huntington Volunteer Fire Company

Firefighter Jerid Burger
Philipsburg Fire Company

Captain Interior Firefighter Josh Trapp
South Amboy Fire Department

Firefighter Michael Verdjak
Lopatcong Fire Company

Firefighter Adam Zimmer
Washington Fire Company

Region South Operations
Captain William Fox
Gibbsboro Fire Company

**First Aid and Rescue Squads,
Search and Rescue**
EMT Charu Jegan
Plainsboro Rescue, Station 49
Division of Community and Project Development

Linda Cardell-Murphy and Tango
West Jersey K-9 Search and Rescue
NJDOT Retiree

First Aid Squad Member Syed Kazmi
Kendall Park First Aid Squad
Division of Highway and Traffic Design

Instructor Lee Steiner
South Amboy First Aid and Safety Squad
Division of Highway and Traffic Design

Zachery Schleicher
Lifetime Member, Ramsey Rescue Squad
Region North Electrical

We would like to honor the employees that made NJDOT their 2nd career after retiring from the Military, Law Enforcement, and/or Emergency Response.

We would also like to remember NJDOT's/NJSP's Military Personnel and Emergency Responders (who have served or continue to serve this Nation and their respective communities), who could not be present for today's ceremony.



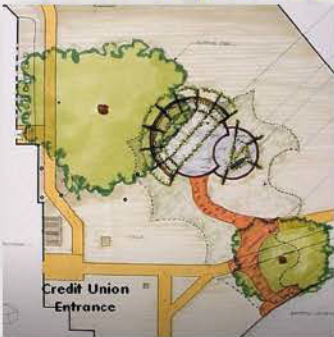
NJDOT Commemorates the 25th Anniversary of the Employee Memorial



The Employee Memorial Committee

1999: The NJDOT Employee Memorial Committee was formed to design and construct a memorial as a result of the tragic accidental death of Louis Caruso.

From Concept to Development



2000: On September 8, 2000, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) Employee Memorial was formally established to honor state employees who lost their lives in work zones or elsewhere while performing their duties. The names of 32 fallen colleagues were placed on the Memorial.

After the Employee Memorial was constructed and dedicated, the members of the Employee Memorial Committee agreed to continue meeting on a regular basis to give back to the employees who had donated time and monetary contributions to make the Memorial a reality.

The Employee Memorial Committee serves as the coordinating body concerning matters directly related to the Memorial and the various Memorial functions. The Committee is also responsible for upkeep of the Memorial along with Support Services.

"As much as our Memorial honors our fallen, it also acknowledges the living. It represents a commitment to transportation, a commitment to safety, a commitment to the highest standards of public service. The words at the base of the Memorial reflect this: Service, Dedication, and Sacrifice."

- Commissioner Fran O'Connor

2001: The NJDOT Employee Memorial annual remembrance ceremony expands to honor those who lost their lives in the horrific terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, and also military personnel and veterans; members of the law enforcement workforce; and emergency responders from both NJDOT and the New Jersey State Police.

2012: The Port Authority of NY&NJ gifts a beam from the World Trade Center to be placed at the Memorial.

2017: A Memorial Garden is added honoring former NJDOT Commissioners.

The Future of the Memorial

2023: Thanks to the efforts of NJDOT Librarian, Eric Schwarz, 5 additional names of fallen colleagues are added to the Memorial Wall of Remembrance.

2024: NJDOT Librarian, Eric Schwarz, identifies 25 additional names of fallen colleagues, bringing the total number of names on the Memorial Wall of Remembrance to 66.

Each year NJDOT continues to honor these deserving individuals during the annual remembrance ceremony held in September at the Memorial. The NJDOT Employee Memorial, now celebrating its 25th anniversary, remains a powerful and poignant testimonial to those who paid the ultimate price while working for the public good on New Jersey's highways and beyond.

